

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification to present the priority claim and to avoid possible objections to the specification.

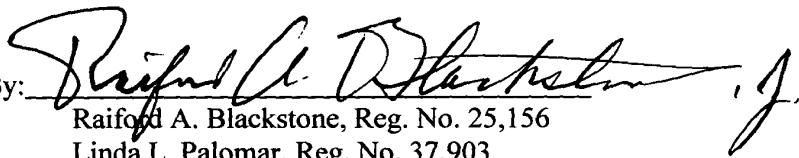
FIGURE 9 has been amended to remove reference numerals 121, 1116, 1118, 1136, 1152, 1154 and 1230.

Applicant advises that the claims to be considered are presented herein as part of the continuation patent application.

As Applicant is not aware of any prior art which would anticipate or would render obvious the claims of the present continuation application, early allowance is requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact one of the undersigned attorneys at (312) 704-1890.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated August 22, 2003
By: 

Raiford A. Blackstone, Reg. No. 25,156
Linda L. Palomar, Reg. No. 37,903
TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI,
BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.
105 W. Adams Street, 36th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
(312) 704-1890

548291